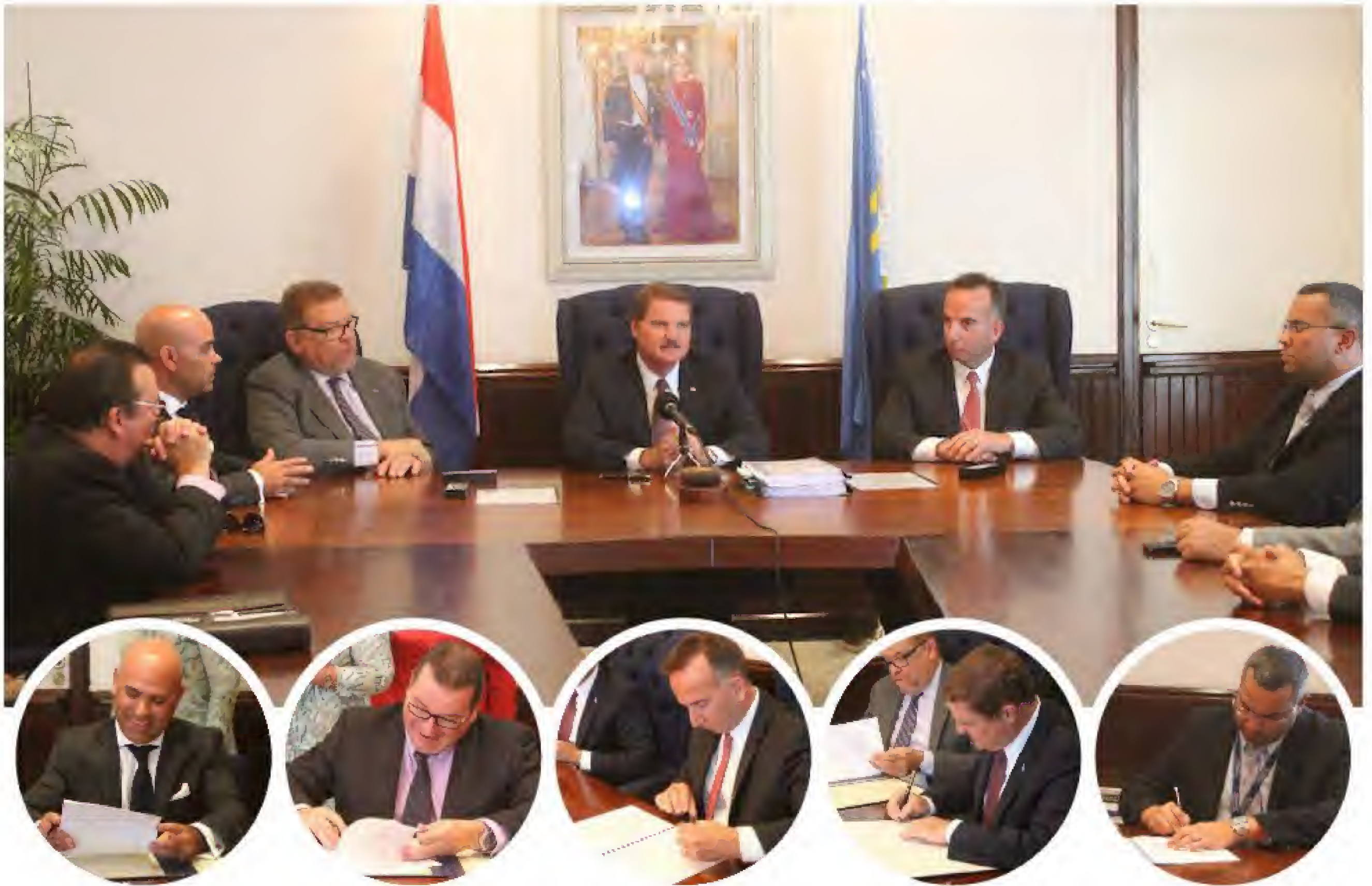




The Police Corp will expand

Project of REMOVING road signs





Aruba and AAA SIGN CONTRACT

with Vision Box for Happy Flow project

IN a short, but important ceremony, the Government of Aruba, the Aruba Airport Authority (AAA) and the Fundacion Desaroyo Arubano (FDA), Aruban Development Foundation signed a contract with Vision Box for the purchase and installation of automatic doors for the processing of passengers at the Queen Beatrix International Airport, known as the Happy Flow Project.

The Happy Flow Project is more than the just the automatic control at the border,

and involves the entire trajectory that the passenger goes through from the moment they check-in until they board their plane. The system of tying all of these phases together through the continued use of the biometric system will be unique to every passenger.

Prime Minister Mike Eman, who together with his Finance colleague Angel Bermudez, signed the documents in the name of the Aruban Government, is very satisfied that Aruba is one of the first in the world to introduce this new

system. "It is a closer step to our goal of making Aruba one of the hubs in the Caribbean," Eman said.

Vision Box, the company that won the project, is from Portugal and is being represented by Bento Correia. Vision Box has international experience delivering automatic doors at borders and installing similar doors at Schiphol, London, and Sao Paulo.

Others who signed the agreements on Friday afternoon were James Fazio

and Jurgen Benschop of the AAA, and Edwin Roos of the FDA. Prime Minister Eman said that the Government hopes that by the end of this month the project will be initiated. The entire project is estimated to take about two years to complete.

The project is being financed by the Government through the FDA. Minister of Tourism Omar Oduber was not able to attend the signing as he was in Parliament in his Ministry's budget meeting at the time.



The Police Corp will expand **Project of REMOVING road signs**

Along with his colleagues in the Police School class of 2011, Wimbomar Krozendijk has chosen the removal and regulation of commercial signs on the side of the road as their environmental projects. The project was presented by Officers Paola Alvarez-Cortes, Marc Dirks, Alette Wernet, and Krozendijk to their instructor Walter Werleman, who approved the project.

The project is among the last assignments the class has to complete to receive their Bachelor degree. The group has been working in the district of Santa Cruz and executed the project together with their mentor Neighborhood Police Officer Elias Halabi.

The action that lasted four days resulted in the removal of 200 signs. It was a great undertaking, for which the Officers received help from the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) and the Department of Public Works (DOW) that provided a truck and its operator for the removal of the signs.

Krozendijk said that over the past couple of years the Police applied a form of "tolerated policy" on the commercial signs on the side of the roads; however the number of signs has continued to grow. It is now time, Krozendijk said, to take them down and start applying the law regulating this practice.

Krozendijk said the next step for the class is to write and present the report of their project to their teachers so they can complete their degree requirements. They class has currently covered a large area already, including Paradera, Santa Cruz and Barcadera.





Written exams START

for Colegio San Nicolas students

AFTER a period of preparations and school examinations in the current school year, the HAVO class of 2015 started their Central Written Examinations yesterday. Colegio San Nicolas has a total of 86 students who will be taking their exams this year for their HAVO diploma.

The time of examinations brings pressure on the students and their parents as well as the school organization, says Colegio San Nicolas staff. The students do their very best to reach their goals, their parents give them the space and support they need to study and prepare themselves, while the school needs to provide all that is needed for the examinations to take place in a calm environment.

"Colegio San Nicolas has no doubt that all examination candidates are giving their all in their own way to be as prepared as possible for the exams ahead of them. We are convinced that our students are well prepared," said Substitute Headmaster of Colegio San Nicolas Ralph Croes. "A well-measured preparation for each young person, days of exam training, tips on studying and facing the exams, and many other strategies together form the adequate preparation for each candidate."

All the teachers and directors of Colegio San Nicolas wish the candidates every success in their eagerness to get the highest scores possible and that in the end they can show to themselves that they are excellent students.



Colegio EPI handed out prizes to the winners Technology Project 2015

Colegio EPI's Technology Project 2015 winners are finally known. The competition took place at the end of April between second year students of the Science and Technology department of the EPI school. Based on knowledge of technical experts and voting of the audience, the following prizes were presented:

- First Place: Hand Controlled Tank Robot by students Albert Bislick and Sinaigel Lacle;
- Second Place: Ninja Saki by students Jacob Van Der Biezen and Oneal Vrutaal;

- Third Place: Levitation Water by students Andric Feliciano, Darraal Koolman, and Emanuel Garcia Gonzales;
- Popular Prize: Wooden Lowrider by students Mourit Van Dinter, Wai Lok Raven, and Jamie-Lee Dijkhoff;
- AVO Student Prize: Emanuel Dilano, chosen by Dutch and Computer teachers.
- Motivation Prize: Rodney Itrausquin, chosen by fellow students.



Is there a future for the Refinery on Aruba?

Oil industry expert to give a lecture tonight



TONIGHT Nelson English, formerly with the Coastal and El Paso Corporations will be presenting a lecture on the future of the oil refinery on Aruba. The lecture will be presented at the YMCA San Nicolas at 7:00 p.m., organized by the San Nicolas Business Association (SNBA), and open to the general public.

Because of the financial-economic situation on Aruba, the SNBA's position is inclined towards an immediate re-opening of the refinery on Aruba, representatives say. However this re-opening must be done in a structural way, with a serious company with a solid base that can be accepted by the local experts and the Government.

The SNBA met with the Minister of Energy Mike De Meza less than a month ago regarding the situation of the refinery. The Minister told the SNBA at that time that there were no positive advances in terms of a re-opening of the refinery, the SNBA informs.

In his presentation, English will share with the people of San Nicolas and Aruba how a re-opening of the refinery can be accomplished.

English was invited by Parliament to give his expert opinion on the refinery in Aruba in a presentation to the Energy Commission in Parliament yesterday morning. He also presented the lecture last night at the Surfside Marina.

English has a long list of experience in the oil industry, and was involved in the re-opening of the oil refinery on Aruba in 1991 when Coastal and later El Paso Corp took over the plant. He is widely familiar with the plant on Aruba.

All interested parties and the community in general are welcome to attend this lecture.

The AGA holds food safety course



OVER the weekend of March 21 - 22, the Aruba Gastronomic Association (AGA) hosted its first internationally recognized Food Safety Management Certification course with fourteen students from seven AGA member restaurants in attendance. Students included executive and sous chefs, restaurant and stewarding managers, and culinary supervisors.

The comprehensive course covered a wide range of food safety topics,

including Prevention of Cross Contamination, Personal Hygiene & Employee Health, Product Time & Temperature Controls and Cleaning & Sanitizing.

The intensive two-day course was instructed by John Grigg, Director of Food & Beverage at the Renaissance Aruba, and finished with a tough, 2-hour final exam on Sunday afternoon.

Pictured are successful students

receiving their National Registry of Food Safety Professional Management Certificates.

From Aqua Grill, Shirley Barrow; from Arawak Restaurants, Wouter Koeneman; from Hostaria da'Vittorio, Jeffrey Gomez; from the Hyatt, Marcia Vrolijk Jones; Iguana Joes, Thomas Terrence; La Cabana, Aldwin Donata, Manuel Castro and Antonio Semeleer; and instructor John Grigg, Renaissance Aruba. Not pictured are Carlotta

Koolman, Efi Croes and Norwin Arrindel from the Hyatt.

The Aruba Gastronomic Association is comprised of 30 member restaurants and promotes culinary and service excellence through training and inspections. It promotes the commercial interests of its members and is a voice for the restaurant sector on Aruba. For more information about AGA, its member restaurants and dine around program, visit www.arubadining.com



Goal Setting and Know Your ORGANIZATION

workshops at the library



THE National Library (BNA) recently hosted two workshops by Randolph Vrolijk called Goal Setting and Know Your Organization. All the participants to this Center of Life Long Learning courses received a certificate for the successful completion to the workshops.

The Goal Setting workshop was held in two sessions in February, where participants learned about successful goal-setting skills. The participants learned not only how to turn their dreams into successful objectives, but also how to be a successful person, and how to put their goals into practice using the SMART model. The participants also took the Know Your Organization workshop that was held in March at the Library. In this class, participants learned about the different kinds of organizations, and the various leadership styles. The participants also learned about time management principles in organizations.

Visit the Library's website at www.bibliotecanacionalaw for more information on their upcoming events.



STRATEGIC Workforce Planning:

Reach strategies, investing in available human resources

DURING the two Strategic Workforce Planning seminars presented by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Dutch Caribbean there will be several speakers leading the sessions. The main speaker will be Linda Vos who is a senior consultant at PwC the Netherlands, specializing on the topic at hand. Also Jan-Huug Lobrecht, partner at the PwC the Netherlands, will be a presenter. Lobrecht is a specialist on the topics of

pension and personnel. Strategic Workforce Planning is an often applied method in organizations to help them determine strategies for the future when it comes to their workforce. The method can be applied both in the private and the public sectors. It can help companies to recognize problems such as ageing or the increasing of the pension age and its effect on the workforce, but also can be applicable in moments when the company

needs to decide whether they will lay people off or not. Strategic Workforce Planning is certainly applicable to the Aruban labor force, organizers say. An example is the recent increase in the pension age on Aruba, which presents challenges to organizations who will have to determine what this change will mean to their employees and strategies they will need to apply in the future. During the seminar the

speakers will focus on what Strategic Workforce Planning is, how it can be applied, will also provide examples of how the method has worked in other countries, and how it can benefit Aruban organizations. This seminar is also important for professionals who want to keep their knowledge fresh and up to date. Each seminar will be worth 2 P.E. points, so if both seminars are attended, the participant will receive a total of 4 P.E. points. The

seminars will be held on May 18, at the Aruba Surfside Marina. The Compliance & Asset Management course will be held from 8:00 a.m. until noon, and the Strategic Workforce Planning will be held from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. For more information or to register, please contact Shanine Oduber via e-mail at shanine.i.oduber@an.pwc.com or call phone number 522-1647.

VIBES4Youth participants take First Aid/CPR course

from Red Cross Aruba

Last Saturday a group of 11 people completed a First Aid/CPR/AED course given by the Red Cross Aruba. During the entire day the participants received information on how to act in an emergency situation. This is especially important for a person who works with children, to be able to know when they can help a child themselves, and when it is necessary to call in external medical help.

Along with theory, the course participants also performed various CPR exercises and trained how to use the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). They also learned how to bind a wound and how to tie a sling. At the end of the course the

instructor gave a scenario to each course participant or a question as their exam. The entire group was able to successfully complete the course and receive their First Aid Card, valid for two years.

The participants included leaders of the Youth Parliament, Stichting Hacienda, and course participants of the Sport Recreation Leader class, among others.

The participants would like to thank the Red Cross Aruba instructors Fesito Richardson and Ronald Roos for their attention and time given to the course participants of the VIBES4Youth.

VIBES4Youth is a project of the Association of Youth Work

on Aruba (ATHA), which is the mother organization of all non-governmental organizations on Aruba who work with children and youth from 0 to 21 years of age. VIBES4Youth offers training program, courses, and lectures to increase the knowledge and abilities of these leaders. The program for the first half of 2015 is quite varied consisting of training in education, sports, recreation and pedagogy.

For more information on trainings by VIBES4Youth please contact Roseline Manna at 582-3773 or send them an e-mail at vibes4youth@gmail.com. They can also be found on Facebook.



Burrises AND Cambrays HONORED

at La Cabana Resort



RECENTLY Mr. and Mrs. William and Judith Burris from Tewksbury, Massachusetts together with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Jeanne Cambray from Dracut, Massachusetts were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors at the La Cabana Beach Resort and Casino.

The symbolic title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism in appreciation to tourists who have been visiting the island for 20 years or more consecutively.

In a lovely atmosphere Darline De Cuba, representative for the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA), presented the certificates to the couples together with Sharine Charles of the La Cabana Resort.

The main reason the visitors said they had been visiting Aruba for so long, is that they love Aruba's restaurants and people, and also the many different on-island activities. The honorees also said Aruba's beaches are very beautiful.

LIBYAN MILITARY SHELLS TURKISH CARGO SHIP, CREW MEMBER KILLED



BENGHAZI, Libya/ANKARA – Forces loyal to Libya's internationally recognised government said on Monday they shelled a Turkish ship off the Libyan coast after it was warned not to approach, and one crew member was killed in what Turkey described as a "contemptible attack".

Libya is in a state of violent factional chaos with two rival governments backed by various armed groups vying for control of the oil-producing North African state including its ports, four years after rebels overthrew Muammar Gaddafi.

The dry cargo ship was targeted about 10 miles from the coast on Sunday after it was told not to break a ban on approaching the eastern city of Derna, Libyan military spokesman Mohamed Hejazi told Reuters.

The forces of Libya's internationally recognised government have said they will hit any ships approaching Derna to stop supplies getting to Islamist militants based there.

The Turkish foreign ministry said the vessel was shelled as it approached the nearby Mediterranean port of Tobruk and then attacked from the air as it tried to leave the area.

"We condemn strongly this contemptible attack which targeted a civilian ship in international waters and curse those who carried it out," the ministry said in a statement, adding that Ankara had protested to the authorities in Libya.

The third officer on the Cook Islands-chartered Tuna-1 vessel died and other crew members were wounded in the attacks, according to the Turkish statement.

It did not specify the assailants, but said the vessel was carrying plasterboard from Spain to Tobruk and was 21 km (13 miles) from its destination when it came under fire.

Hejazi confirmed that one crew member was killed and said one other person was wounded.

A Libyan military source said the vessel was on fire and being towed to Tobruk terminal. But a Turkish foreign ministry official denied this, saying it was returning to Turkey.

"Turkey approached the United Nations and the IMO (International Maritime Organization) in connection with the matter. A note was given to Libya's Ankara embassy and Istanbul consulate seeking an explanation," the Turkish official said.

Libya's rival administration, whose armed supporters took over the capital last summer, condemned the Turkish vessel shelling in a statement as an act of "terrorism" by Gen. Khalifa Haftar, a former Gaddafi ally who leads the military forces of the recognised government.

Internationally recognised Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni said in February his government would stop dealing with Turkey because it was sending weapons to a rival group in Tripoli so that "the Libyan people kill each other".

Turkey denies taking sides in the conflict, saying it supports U.N.-led efforts to broker a peace.

A Libyan warplane from forces loyal to Thinni's government bombed a Greek-operated oil tanker anchored off Libya's coast in January, killing two crewmen, amid hostilities between factions vying for power.

Attacks on foreign ships in waters near Libya may complicate European Union efforts to stop traffickers sending thousands of migrants to Europe in often unseaworthy vessels.

Thousands have drowned in the voyage and several EU nations have sent naval vessels to the region to try to stem the migrant influx. But Libyan officials have warned against any measure perceived as an attack on the country's sovereignty.

Source: Reuters & todayszaman

HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES ARRIVE IN MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AFTER THAI CRACKDOWN



MALAYSIA detained more than a thousand Bangladeshi and Rohingya refugees, including dozens of children, police said, a day after authorities rescued hundreds stranded off the coast of Indonesia's western tip. There has been a huge increase in refugees from impoverished Bangladesh and Myanmar drifting on boats to Malaysia and Indonesia in recent days after Thailand, usually the initial destination in the region's people smuggling network, announced a crackdown on the trafficking.

Over 100 refugees from these countries were found wandering around in southern Thailand last week, apparently after they were abandoned by the smugglers. An estimated 25,000 Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar and Bangladesh boarded people smugglers' boats in the first three months of this year, twice as many in the same period of 2014, the U.N. refugee agency UNHCR has said. Most travel in rickety traffickers' boats to Thailand, where they are held in squalid jungle camps until a ransom is paid.

Police on the northwest Malaysian island of Langkawi, close to the border with Thailand, said three boats arrived in the middle of the night to unload the refugees, who were taken into custody as they came ashore. One boat was discovered after it got stuck on a breakwater, but the other two vessels escaped. There was no immediate word on the crew.

"They came from their respective countries, moved towards Thailand and into Malaysia by Langkawi," local police chief Harrieth Kam Abdullah told Reuters. He did not elaborate.

The boats contained 555 Bangladeshis and 463 Rohingya, who would be handed over to the immigration department, he added.

Malaysia, one of Southeast Asia's wealthier economies, has long been a magnet for illegal immigrants from poorer countries in the region.

Nearly 600 migrants thought to be Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshis were rescued from at least two wooden boats stranded off the coast of Indonesia's Aceh province on Sunday, authorities said.

The overcrowded boats, which were carrying nearly 100 women and dozens of children among the refugees, were towed to shore by fishermen after running out of fuel.

Thai police spokesman Lieutenant General Prawut Thawornsiri said the crackdown in people smuggling had prompted the rush of arrivals elsewhere.

"Yes, our crackdown is affecting the boats," he told Reuters in Bangkok. "They are going to Indonesia. Why else would they go to Indonesia? It is so far. . . . Our job is to block the boats and not let them land on our shores."

Mass graves

Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha ordered a clean up of suspected human trafficking camps around the country after 33 bodies, believed to be of migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh, were found in shallow graves in the south of the country, near Malaysia.

First Admiral Maritime Zulkifli bin Abu Bakar, the head of criminal investigations in the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, said the arrivals in Malaysia were a surprise and couldn't say if they were linked to the Thai crackdown.

"We didn't expect large numbers like this to come down," he said.

Of those rescued off Indonesia, around 50 were taken to hospital. "In general, they were suffering from

starvation and many were very thin," said North Aceh police chief Achmadi.

Some of the migrants had initially believed they had arrived in Malaysia.

The refugees were being held in a gymnasium in the town of Lhoksukon, about 20 km (12 miles) from where they were brought ashore.

Mohammad Kasim, a Bangladeshi migrant on one of the boats, told Reuters that each passenger paid 4,400 ringgit (\$1,200) for the journey to what they thought would be Malaysia. Three people died on the journey and were dumped in the sea, he said.

"We are hearing the passengers were left close to shore and were told that this is Malaysia and you got what you paid for. They came onshore and found out it wasn't Malaysia," said Mark Getchell, head of the International Organization for Migration in Indonesia. An agency official estimated that around 300 people had died at sea in the first quarter of this year as a result of starvation, dehydration and abuse by boat crews.

Kasim, 44, said he had left the Bangladesh town of Bogra a month ago on a small boat with 30-40 other people in the hope of finding a job in Malaysia. An agency in Bogra helped arrange the trip.

"Before, I worked in Malaysia for three years in construction when I was 16. I wanted to go back because it is very difficult to find work in Bangladesh," Kasim, speaking in Malay, told Reuters.

After leaving Bogra, they arrived at a Thai beach where he said they stayed for 21 days before leaving on a larger ship with hundreds of passengers.

"I didn't know where I was but I was on the beach," Kasim said

Source: vietnambreakingnews

Boston bomber told nun 'no one' should suffer as his victims did

LAWYERS for the Boston Marathon bomber on Monday wrapped up the case to spare Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's life with testimony from a Roman Catholic nun and death-penalty opponent who said Tsarnaev told her "no one deserves to suffer" as his victims had.

The same jury that last month found Tsarnaev, 21, guilty of killing three people and wounding 264 others in the April 15, 2013, attack, later this week will begin deliberating whether to sentence him to death by lethal injection or to life in prison without possibility of release.

Since testimony began in Boston federal court in early March, the jury has heard from about 150 witness, including parents who lost children in the attack, first responders who attended to victims who had lost limbs, and Tsarnaev's Russian relatives who remembered him as a loving young boy. But the closest they came to hearing from Tsarnaev himself was Monday's testimony from the nun, Sister Helen Prejean, 76, who described meeting him five times over the past year at the request of defense lawyers. Prejean, whose story inspired the 1993 book and 1995 film "Dead Man Walking," said she believed Tsarnaev was remorseful.

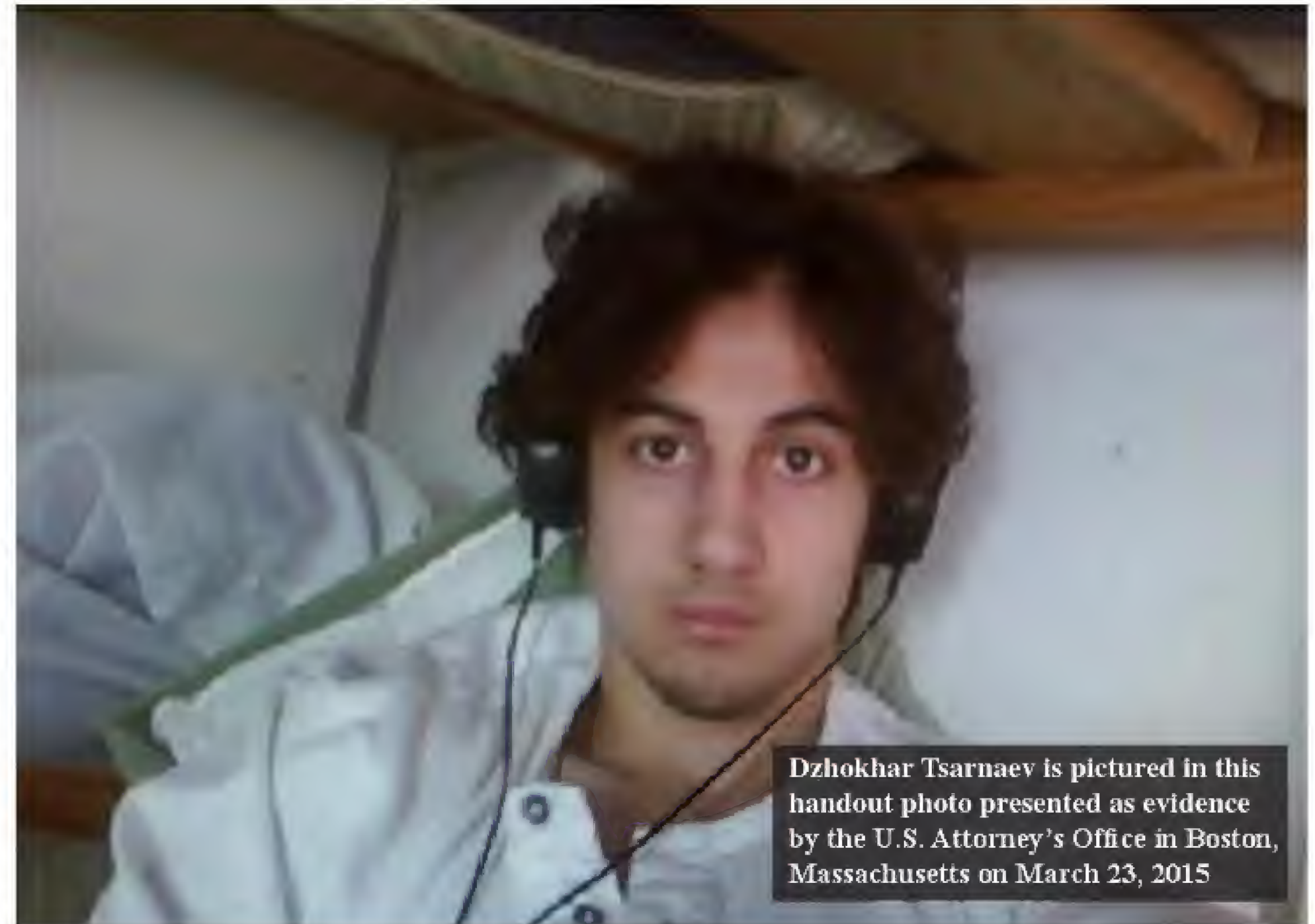
"He said it emphatically. He said no one deserves to suffer like they did," said Prejean, the public face of the New Orleans-based Ministry Against the Death Penalty and a Nobel Peace Prize nominee. "I had every reason to think that he was taking it in and that he was genuinely sorry for what he did."

The defense rested its case after her testimony.

During the trial's sentencing phase, prosecutors sought to depict Tsarnaev, an ethnic Chechen, as an adherent of al Qaeda's militant Islamic ideology who mounted the attack "to punish America" for U.S. military campaigns in Muslim lands.

Defense attorneys contended he was a willing but secondary player in a scheme driven by his 26-year-old brother.

Tamerlan Tsarnaev died on April 19, 2013, following a gunfight with police



Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is pictured in this handout photo presented as evidence by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston, Massachusetts on March 23, 2015

that ended when Dzhokhar inadvertently ran him over with a stolen vehicle as he sped away from the scene. Hours earlier, the pair had shot a university police officer to death as they prepared to flee Boston.

STOIC PRESENCE

Tsarnaev sat quietly through his trial, showing little sign of emotion until last week, when he briefly dabbed at his eyes as his 64-year-old aunt broke down in tears on the witness stand.

By closing with Prejean, defense attorneys ended the case with Tsarnaev's words without giving prosecutors a chance to cross-examine him, said Robert Bloom, a professor at Boston College Law School.

"I think it was a good decision. From everything we can see, he doesn't emote very much, especially in the courtroom," Bloom said. "Through Prejean, they were able to show him talking, show him caring. I thought that was really quite powerful."

It also spared Tsarnaev from being

tripped up during an aggressive cross-examination by prosecutors. While prosecutors asked Prejean about her opposition to the death penalty, they stopped short of questioning her honesty, possible due to her clerical status, Bloom said.

"It's very difficult to impeach a nun of long standing," Bloom said.

CONTROVERSIAL IN BOSTON

The death penalty is unpopular in Boston, where state laws do not allow the punishment and polls show a plurality of residents would prefer to see Tsarnaev sentenced to life in prison.

The families of two of his victims have publicly urged prosecutors to drop their bid for execution, and defense attorneys have argued that a life sentence will remove him from the public eye more quickly than the appeals that surround a death penalty case.

John Oliver, warden of the maximum security prison in Florence, Colorado, where Tsarnaev would be sent if spared

the death sentence, told jurors on Monday that Tsarnaev could write a book, watch television and get a college degree while in prison.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys are scheduled to make their closing arguments Wednesday following a day's recess, after which the 12 jurors will begin deliberations on Tsarnaev's fate. Martin Richard, 8, Chinese exchange student Lu Lingzi, 23, and restaurant manager Krystle Campbell, 29, died in the bombing. The Tsarnaev brothers shot dead Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer Sean Collier three days later.

Prejean, who initially met Tsarnaev in March as his trial was getting under way, described first setting eyes on the bomber.

"I walked in the room and I looked at his face and I remembered, 'Oh my God, he's so young.' Which he is," Prejean said. "I sensed he was very respectful, and I felt it was pretty easy to establish a rapport."

Source: Reuters

FIVE DEAD, DOZENS INJURED AFTER TORNADOES

(CNN) - The lawn of what used to be the Van, Texas, intermediate school is scattered with shards of glass and long, twisted strips of metal and plastic. The building's windows are blown out, and debris hangs choked on the windowsills.

The roof has been severed from the walls, evidence of the unconfirmed tornado that tore through Van late Sunday. Two people -- an adult man and woman related to one another -- have been confirmed dead as a result of the storm, Van Zandt County Fire Marshal Chuck Allen said Monday.

It looks like seeing your entire childhood destroyed, residents told CNN on Monday. In all, at least five people are dead, dozens injured, and eight remain unaccounted for after severe storms tore across the middle of the United States over the weekend. More than 70 tornadoes were reported in the Midwest and Plains states.

As day broke in Van, the significant destruction from Sunday's storm became evident. Officials said that search canines were helping comb through the town to search for the missing.

Fire Marshal Allen said Monday that crews were focusing search efforts near where the missing were last seen.

Warning sirens began to wail around 8:45 p.m. Sunday, minutes before the apparent tornado struck Van. A National Weather Service tornado warning was in effect for the area. Allen said emergency responders took 43 people to area hospitals, and many more were taken by private vehicle.

Approximately 30% of the town suffered damage, Allen estimated. Van's website says the town covers some 3 square miles and is home to more than 2,300 people. Approximately 53,000 people live in Van Zandt County, east of Dallas.

Allen said between 50 and 100 homes were damaged. The elementary school and intermediate school had "significant damage."

"Every bit of that can be replaced," Van Independent School District Superintendent Don Dunn said. "We feel very blessed that this did not happen during a school day."

Van's schools were closed Monday because of the storm damage, the district Facebook page said.

National Weather Service personnel arrived Monday to assess the damage and determine the strength of the storm.



Judson Jones
@thejudsonjones

Follow

Just some of the tornado damage in #Van #Texas @CNN

8:51 AM · 11 May 2015

155 91



INJURED, SEVERAL MISSING TORNADO BLAST CENTRAL U.S



Emergency workers use ATVs to rescue walking wounded

Aerial footage from CNN affiliate KTVT over Van showed roofless homes, mud-covered streets and downed trees across residential areas. People walked around, surveying the damage clearing mounds of debris from their yards and roads.

"It's just something that you never expect," Mayor Dean Stone said Monday. Some homes appeared to have been ripped from their foundations, or flattened, with only wooden beams jutting skyward.

"Damages range from completely destroyed homes, damaged homes, to trees and power lines down," Allen said. "The initial response of emergency responders was to locate and identify any injured individuals."

The Van city Facebook page directs anyone looking to donate items to the Red Cross or help with cleanup to report to a command center at the fire department. The Red Cross is helping emergency officials and has set up a shelter and triage area at the First Baptist Church. Teams on foot and on ATVs were rescuing the walking wounded.

The Van Fire Department said on its Facebook page that a second storm cell struck around 10:30 p.m., and sirens sounded again to warn emergency officials in the field to take cover. The department said the area was not safe and urged people to stay away and off the roads.

Widespread storms wreak havoc

Fierce storms battered the center of the United States all weekend, causing damage from South Dakota and Iowa down to Texas.

Two people were killed when a storm hit a trailer park in Nashville, Arkansas, Howard County Emergency Management coordinator Sonny Raulerson said Monday. The pair was identified as Melissa and Michael Mooneyhan, according to the Howard County Coroner John Gray.

A young child identified as their daughter was found alive near their bodies. She was taken to a local hospital but did not appear to have any serious injuries. A tornado warning had been in effect in the area.

Heavy rain hit large swaths of Texas and the Southern Plains. Flash flooding struck across parts of northern Texas, including the town of Krum. CNN affiliate WFAA reported that flood debris damaged a new bridge over Oliver Creek near Justin, Texas.

Widespread areas of Texas saw 2 to 4 inches of rain over the weekend. Eleven inches pummeled Navarro County, Texas, south of the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Roof ripped off high school in Iowa

Early Sunday, a tornado struck the small South Dakota town of Delmont.

Approximately 20 buildings were damaged, and residents were being asked to leave because of unsecured propane tanks, said Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Kristi Turman. There were no serious injuries from the storm, she said, but Delmont had no power, no water and no telephone service.

A powerful storm also swept through Lake City, Iowa, ripping most of the roof off a local high school, said Mayor Gary Fahan. The people who had been inside the school for an awards ceremony left the building when they heard tornado sirens, he said, adding that there were no injuries.

On Saturday, a tornado that struck Eastland County, Texas, west of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, killed one person and injured another critically, the local fire department said.



CHICAGO (AFP) - LeBron James made a baseline jumper as time expired to lift the Cleveland Cavaliers to an 86-84 win over the Chicago Bulls in game four of the NBA playoff quarter-finals.

Teammates mobbed James after he drilled the shot from 21 feet following a pass from Matthew Dellavedova.

“He was in attack mode all night. He took responsibility, and he led his guys,” *Cavaliers coach David Blatt said of James.*

In the Western Conference contest, DeAndre Jordan tallied 26 points and 17 rebounds as the Los Angeles Clippers put the Houston Rockets on the brink of elimination with a 128-95 win.

James finished with 25 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists while center Timofey Mozgov contributed 15 points and nine rebounds in the win.

Derrick Rose of the Chicago Bulls grabs a rebound in front of Timofey Mozgov of the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Derrick Rose led the Bulls with 31 points and four assists. Guard Butler scored 19 points, and center Joakim Noah tallied eight points with 15 rebounds.

Cleveland trailed by as many as 11 points in the second half before going on a 23-5 burst that made it 80-73 with just over four minutes left in the fourth.

Guard J.R. Smith ignited the rally with a trio of baskets from beyond the arc early in the fourth quarter.

James improvised on the game-winning play, telling Blatt to get him the ball and

he would do the rest.

“To be honest, the play that was drawn up, I scratched it,” *James said.*

“I told coach, ‘Just get me the ball. We’re either going to go into overtime, or I’m going to win it for us.’ It was that simple.”

Jimmy Butler of the Chicago Bulls goes up for a shot past LeBron James of the Cleveland Cavaliers in ...

The shot marked the second straight buzzer-beater in the series. In game three, Rose banked in a three-pointer as time expired to win that contest for Chicago.

Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau said back-to-back buzzer-beaters were an indication of just how close the two teams are.

“(James) made a great play,” Thibodeau said. “That’s what great players do. Derrick made a great play the other night, and LeBron made one tonight.”

James also had to do more than usual Sunday with Kyrie Irving hampered by a foot injury.

Jordan finished six-of-seven from the field and 14-of-34 from the foul line for the Clippers, who took a 3-1 series lead and can advance to the next round with a victory Tuesday in Houston.

The opening 24 minutes were sloppy and slow, with Jordan going to the foul line often. He sunk just 10-of-28 free throws and the Clippers shot a disappointing 24-of-44 from the line.

Despite the poor free-throw shooting, the Clippers still led 60-54 at halftime and pulled away with a 21-4 surge to begin the third quarter.

Pele leaves hospital after surgery, latest health setback



SAO PAULO: Brazilian football legend Pele was released from hospital Saturday following prostate surgery, doctors said, after his latest health scare.

The Albert Einstein Hospital in Sao Paulo released a picture of a smiling Pele wearing sportswear and waving at the camera with his partner, Marcia Cibeles Aoki.

The only player to win three World Cup titles underwent a surgical procedure four days ago known as a transurethral resection of the prostate, which is performed for enlargement of the prostate that causes difficulty urinating.

"Examination results revealed that this is a benign hyperplasia, and therefore there was no incidence of tumors," a medical report indicated Friday. Media reports said the surgery for an enlarged prostate – a common condition in aging men – was aimed at preventing a repeat of the urinary infection that sent Pele to hospital last year.

The global sports icon has suffered a number of health crises in recent months.

He underwent surgery for kidney stones in November, and then came down with an infection that required treatment in a hospital intensive care unit for several days.

His one remaining kidney – the other was removed following a rib injury during his playing days – stopped working and had to be treated with dialysis.

He was also operated on the femur in November 2012.

After a hospital stay last year, the football great joked with reporters about his ambitious plans for Rio 2016, saying "I am preparing for the Olympics!" But he conceded that he has faced a series of health setbacks in recent years, saying he thought that "God was ignoring" him.

Pele was named Athlete of the Century by the International Olympic Committee in 1999.

The sportsman, whose real name is Edson Arantes do Nascimento, is widely regarded as the greatest football player of all time.

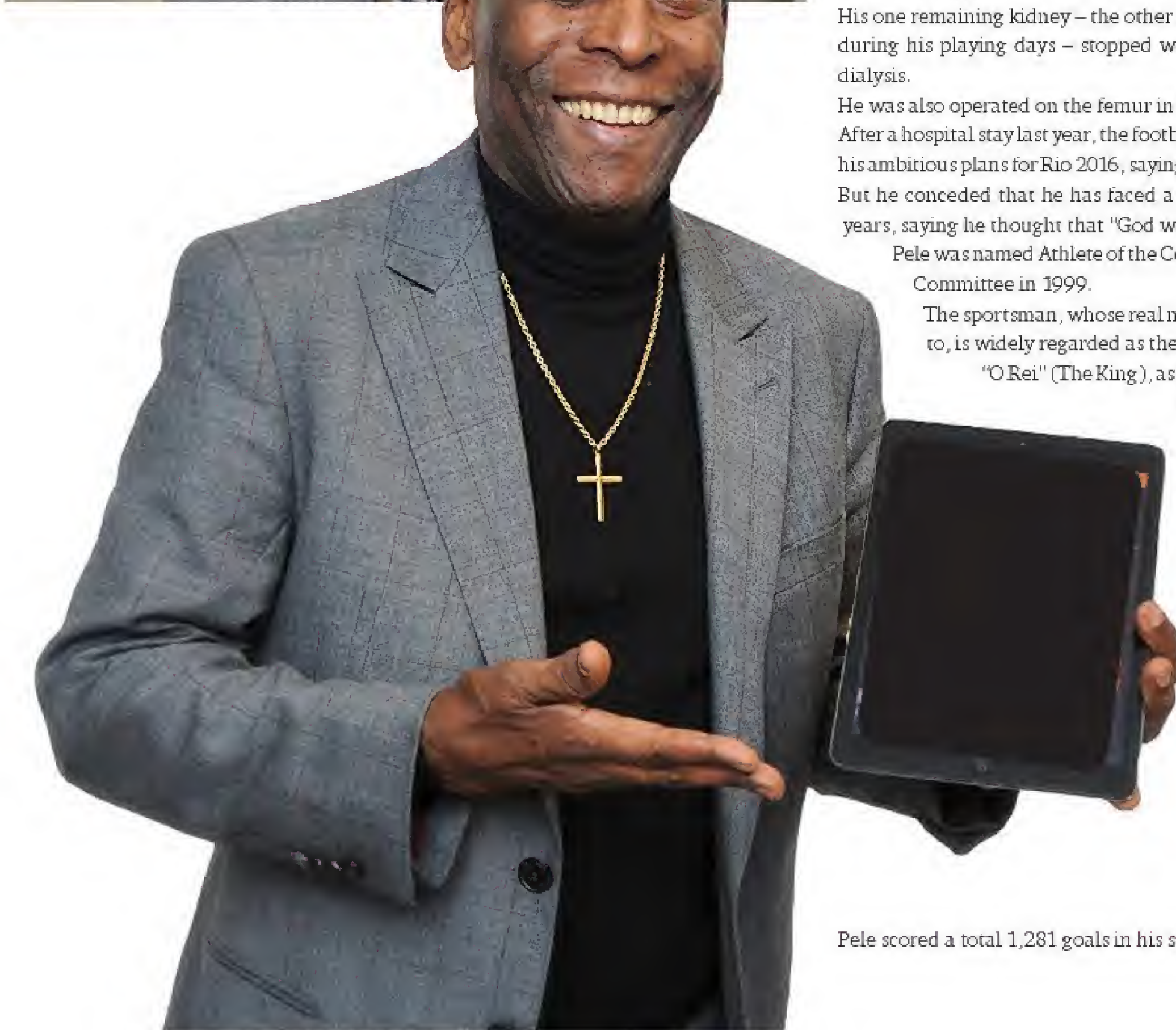
"O Rei" (The King), as he is affectionately called, was born

on Oct. 23, 1940, in a humble home in the city of Tres Coracoes and exploded into Brazilian football as a young phenom. He would go on to score a total of 77 goals in 91 games for his football-mad country across a remarkable career that included two more World Cup titles, in 1962 and 1970.

In 1977, he inspired the New York Cosmos to the U.S. national title in his final season with the club, which also featured fellow greats Franz Beckenbauer, Italian striker Giorgio Chinaglia and former Brazil captain Carlos Alberto.

Pele scored a total 1,281 goals in his sparkling career.

Source: Dailystar



Latest Ebola Outbreak Impacts Global Health Security



A recent survey published in the *Journal Lancet* blames West Africa's political class and its lack of commitment for the country's new crisis and how it may affect global health security.

Opinion essays written by renowned health practitioners show that uncertain political conditions in West Africa are the root cause of a poor health system that does not match global standards.

The authors have examined people's access to healthcare, how the outbreak may enhance political commitment to improve health security, and the relevance of issues like antimicrobial resistance in health security. Lead author, David L. Heymann, a professor from the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London defines "health security" as protection from various threats to health.

According to their findings, factors that have an impact on global health security include demoralized health workers, falsified or substandard medicine, armed conflict, natural disasters and last but not least, patterns of immigration.

Margaret Kruk, MD, MPH, from the Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard T. H., talked to *Medscape Medical News* about phenomenon called "absence of resilience", explaining that professionals often have trouble admitting a crisis in one region of the world is a crisis that the entire world is facing.

She went on to say that despite most countries signing off on the implementation of International Health Regulations, guidelines and instructions meant to help health workers detect and treat disease outbreaks properly and in good time, many of these countries, especially the poor ones, have not implemented them. She also noted that authorities typically credit late detection of the disease as the cause of the outbreak.

The effects of the environment could easily be seen on healthcare professionals in West Africa. They were often demoralized and unmotivated to come to work due to their paychecks being delayed by months, and not being provided with the proper cure and equipment to deal with the outbreak effectively.

Kruk says governments need to invest in training the right number and categories of workers, offer them the support they need and pay them on time, if we

are to avoid future outbreaks. They also have to take the implementation of nonemergency care (such as vaccinations) seriously to further reduce the chance of future outbreaks.

Professor Heymann makes an important observation on the difference between collective health security and individual health security. During the crisis, infected workers from well developed countries were brought back to said countries to get proper and effective treatment. West Africans however were not shown the same level of care.

Heymann empathizes that for global health security to work, individuals across the globe have to be granted access to quality health products and services.

He reminds readers that over the past decade both Washington DC, the most influential city affecting global health today, and the World Health Organization (WHO) have not given global security the importance it deserves, with one senior US State Department official even claiming that it might be because the WHO has been overwhelmed by Ebola.

Source: Worldreportnow